

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DOHA 00688 111501Z

51

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SAJ-01 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FEAE-00 FPC-01

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03

USIA-15 SAM-01 OES-05 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00

FRB-01 PA-02 PRS-01 ACDA-10 /129 W

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R 111403Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY DOHA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 549

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

UNCLAS DOHA 0688

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS : PFOR, QA, KU

SUBJECT : AMIR OF QATAR'S INTERVIEW WITH KUWAITI PAPER

SUMMARY: IN WIDE-RANGING INTERVIEW WITH KUWAITI PAPER, AMIR OF QATAR HAS SUPPORTED GULF COMMON MARKET, COOPERATIVE SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS AND REGIONAL INDUSTRIAL AND ECONOMIC COORDINATION. HE ALSO DISCUSSED INTERNAL AFFAIRS, KUWAIT/QATAR RELATIONS AND OIL POLICY. END SUMMARY.

1. ON JUNE 9 KUWAIT DAILY "SIYASSA" CARRIED LONG INTERVIEW WITH AMIR OF QATAR SHAYKH KHALIFA BIN HAMAD AL THANI. EXCERPTS APPEARED JUNE 11 IN

QATARI DAILY "AL ARAB".

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2. AMIR'S RESPONSES TO INTERVIEWER'S QUESTIONS INCLUDED FOLLOWING POINTS:

- (A) ADVOCACY OF GULF COMMON MARKET EVOLVING TO POLITICAL COOPERATION A LA EC. AMIR CLAIMED INITIATIVES ALREADY TAKEN ON SUBJECT.
- (B) DENIAL THAT QATAR IN "SAUDI ORBIT". AMIR SAID GOQ HAD GOOD RELATIONS WITH SAG AND EQUALLY GOOD RELATIONS WITH OTHER STATES IN AREA.
- (C) DENIAL THAT GOQ ISOLATING SELF FROM MOVES TOWARD COOPERATION IN GULF. HE NOTED AGAIN COMMON MARKET PROPOSAL.
- (D) QATAR HAS NOT RPT NOT ENTERED AREA ARMS RACE--ECONOMIC/SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT HAD PRIORITY.
- (E) IRAN SHOULD NOT BE "SOURCE OF ANXIETY" FOR GULF STATES. COOPERATION WITH IRAN VERY IMPORTANT. PRAISED IRAN/IRAQ AGREEMENT AND SAID PLANNED IRANIAN ELECTRONIC INTELLIGENCE NETWORK OKAY IF IT "WELL INTENTIONED".
- (F) DETENTE IN GULF HAS PREPARED WAY FOR SECURITY COOPERATION TO FACE EXTERNAL DANGERS. NO "OFFICIAL" ACTION HAS YET BEEN TAKEN BUT TALKS HAVE TAKEN PLACE. IMPROVED INTER-GULF RELATIONS WOULD LEAD TO CONFERENCE OF GULF STATES TO STUDY ALL AREA PROBLEMS. CONFERENCE MUST BE WELL PREPARED TO ASSURE SUCCESS. GREAT IMPORTANCE OF AREA REQUIRES COOPERATION TO STRENGTHEN SECURITY.
- (G) DENIED KUWAIT AND QATAR "ALIENATED" FROM ONE ANOTHER. SAID RELATIONS ARE HARMONIOUS ALTHOUGH NATURALLY THERE ARE AREAS OF DISAGREEMENT. EACH COUNTRY HAD PRESENTED ECONOMIC COOPERATION AGREEMENT AND COMPROMISE ON TEXTS NOW REQUIRED.
- (H) DEMOCRATIZATION IN QATAR MUST BE BY GRADUAL EVOLUTION. SOCIETY WILL NOT TOLERATE QUICK CHANGE.
- (I) FAHD VISIT TO KUWAIT GOOD FOR AREA ATMOSPHERE. AMIR HAS BEEN PLANNING GULF TOUR BUT TIME HAS NOT PERMITTED. HE HAD URGED IRAQIS TO SETTLE BORDER DISPUTE WITH KUWAIT AND WAS CONFIDENT THIS WOULD HAPPEN.
- (J) OIL POLICY: GOQ'S INTENTION FOR 100 PERCENT TAKEOVER DECLARED AND TALKS IN PROCESS. SUPPORTED SDR AS REFERENCE FOR OIL PAYMENTS.
- (K) CANAL OPENING WAS PROOF OF SADAT AND ARAB'S DESIRE FOR PEACE.
- (L) JOINT COMMITTEE OF GULF STATES BEING FORMED TO COORDINATE REGIONAL ECONOMIC AND INDUSTRIAL PLANNING. OPEC EXPERIENCE SHOULD BE APPLIED TO THESE FIELDS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975DOHA00688
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750203-1050
From: DOHA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750658/aaaacakm.tel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 MAR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 MAR 2003 by PhilliR0>; APPROVED <10 FEB 2004 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: : AMIR OF QATAR'S INTERVIEW WITH KUWAITI PAPER SUMMARY: IN WIDE-RANGING INTERVIEW WITH KUWAITI PAPER, AMIR OF QATAR
TAGS: PFOR, QA, KU, (THANI, KHALIFA IBN HAMAD AL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006